

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /087 W
-----061955 060155Z /63

R 051807Z DEC 77
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2539
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA POUCH
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK POUCH

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FROM US REP MBFR

USSALTTWO

BELGRADE ALSO FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJ: MBFR: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD NOV 28 - DEC 4, 1977

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE FURTHER EAST-WEST EXCHANGE OF
MANPOWER DATA IN THE VIENNA FORCE REDUCTION NEGOTIATIONS

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REMAINED STAFFED THIS PAST WEEK BY DIFFERENCES OVER THE MODALITIES
OF THE EXCHANGE OF ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE MANPOWER DATA AND
OVER THE SCOPE OF THE FUTURE DISCUSSION OF DATA ONCE THE
CURRENTLY CONTEMPLATED EXCHANGE OF FURTHER DATA
HAD OCCURRED. ON DECEMBER 1, THE EAST ADVANCED
A PROPOSAL AIMED AT RESOLVING THESE TWO ISSUES
IN TIME TO PERMIT ADDITIONAL DATA TO BE EXCHANGED

BEFORE THE END OF THE CURRENT NEGOTIATING ROUND.
THE AD HOC GROUP FORWARDED TO THE NAC ON
DECEMBER 3 AN ANALYSIS OF THIS LATEST EASTERN
MOVE ALONG WITH A REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE ON HOW TO
RESPOND TO IT. END SUMMARY.

2. EVENTS DURING THE NOVEMBER 29 INFORMAL SESSION OF
THE VIENNA TALKS CONFIRMED A PRIOR BILATERAL INDICATION
THAT EASTERN REPS WERE STILL NOT IN A POSITION FORMALLY
TO SUGGEST POSSIBLE MEANS FOR RESOLVING THE ISSUE OF
THE MODALITIES OF A FURTHER EXCHANGE OF AIR FORCE MAN-
POWER DATA. EASTERN REPS CONTENDED THAT, IN ANY CASE,
THIS MATTER WAS NOT THE MAIN OPEN ISSUE. IN THIS
REGARD, THEY ARGUED THAT WESTERN REPS HAD STILL NOT
GIVEN A CLEAR ANSWER TO THE LEGITIMATE EASTERN QUESTION
OF WHETHER OR NOT THE WEST ACCEPTED THE EAST'S OCTOBER
25 COMPROMISE DATA DISAGGREGATION PROPOSAL. EASTERN
REPS SAID THAT, INSTEAD, THE NOVEMBER 9 WESTERN
RESPONSE TO THAT PROPOSAL HAD PROPOSED A DIFFERENT
BASIS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF DATA NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THAT
PROPOSED BY THE EAST ON OCTOBER 25 IN THAT THE WEST
WAS INDICATING ITS INTENTION TO RENEW ITS PROPOSAL FOR
EXCHANGE OF DATA ON MAJOR FORMATIONS AFTER THE DATA NOW
UNDER DISCUSSION WERE EXCHANGED. EASTERN REPRESENTA-
TIVES ALSO NOTED THAT THE WEST HAD STILL NOT REPLIED
TO THE EASTERN PROPOSAL THAT A FURTHER DATA EXCHANGE
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SHOULD EVENTUALLY INCLUDE MANNING LEVEL INFORMATION.

3. EASTERN REPS EMPHASIZED THAT THE EAST WAS PREPARED
ONLY TO TABLE THE DATA PROVIDED FOR IN ITS OCTOBER 25
PROPOSAL. THEY COMPLAINED THAT THEY HAD NO ASSURANCE
THAT WESTERN REPS WOULD REFRAIN FROM EVENTUALLY SEEK-
ING IN SEQUENCE ALL THE DATA ON INDIVIDUAL MAJOR
FORMATIONS OF THE KIND WHOSE SIMULTANEOUS TABLING WAS
CALLED FOR IN THE JULY 15 WESTERN DISAGGREGATION
PROPOSAL. EASTERN REPS MAINTAINED THAT FUTURE
QUESTIONS OF A DEFINITIONAL NATURE WOULD BE SUPERFLUOUS SINCE
THE EAST HAD FOLLOWED THE WESTERN FORMULA FOR DETERMINING WHICH
TROOPS SHOULD BE COUNTED UNDER MAJOR FORMATIONS. DURING THE
SESSION, EASTERN REPS ALSO CRITICIZED AT LENGTH WESTERN ARGUMENTS
BASED ON GEOGRAPHY WHICH, THEY SAID, ARTIFICIALLY CONCENTRATED
ON THE LOCATION OF THE SOVIET UNION IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO THE
REDUCTION AREA IN THE EAST WHILE OVERLOOKING SIGNIFICANT NATO
FORCES ON NEARBY TERRITORY TO THE SOUTH AND WEST.

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4. WESTERN REPS SAID THEY WERE PREPARED, WITHOUT
CONDITIONS FROM EITHER SIDE AS TO THE SCOPE OF FUTURE
DISCUSSION, TO EXCHANGE GROUND FORCE DATA IMMEDIATELY
AND TO CONTINUE THE EXAMINATION OF THE MODALITIES OF
EXCHANGING FURTHER AIR FORCE MANPOWER DATA. THEY
ADDED THAT, IF EASTERN REPS WERE NOT PREPARED TO PROCEED
ON THAT BASIS, IT WAS UP TO THE LATTER TO MAKE SPECIFIC
SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING A SATISFACTORY NEXT STEP. IN
REPLY TO AN EASTERN QUERY, WESTERN REPS STATED THAT THEY
CONTEMPLATED A FLEXIBLE DISCUSSION OF ANY NEW DATA WHICH
WOULD LEAVE PARTICIPANTS ON EITHER SIDE FREE TO ASK
QUESTIONS AT ANY TIME ABOUT THE FORCES OF ANY DIRECT
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PARTICIPANT.

5. AT ITS NOVEMBER 30 MEETING, THE AD HOC GROUP

APPROVED A REPORT ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS TO BE SENT TO THE NAC FOR USE AT THE DECEMBER NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING. THE REPORT NOTED THAT, IN THE EVENT OF A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE EASTERN POSITION, OUTSTANDING PROCEDURAL ISSUES MIGHT YET BE RESOLVED IN TIME TO PERMIT A FURTHER EAST-WEST EXCHANGE OF MANPOWER DATA BEFORE THE END OF THE CURRENT NEGOTIATING ROUND. THE REPORT ALSO NOTED THAT EASTERN ANTICIPATION, FED BY WESTERN PRESS LEAKS, OF A NEW WESTERN INITIATIVE HAD ENCOURAGED THE EAST TO MARK TIME ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES AND SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE TACTICALLY ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE WEST TO HAVE THE CONTENT OF THAT INITIATIVE APPROVED BY THE NAC TO CLEAR THE WAY FOR ITS TIMELY PRESENTATION IN VIENNA WHEN THE NAC CONSIDERED IT APPROPRIATE.

6. ON DECEMBER 1, IN A BILATERAL MEETING WITH US REPS, SOVIET REP TARASOV ADVANCED ON BEHALF OF THE EAST A PROPOSAL AIMED AT RESOLVING EAST-WEST PROCEDURAL DIFFERENCES OVER THE MODALITIES OF A FURTHER EXCHANGE OF AIR FORCE MANPOWER DATA AND OVER THE SCOPE OF THE FUTURE DISCUSSION OF DATA FOLLOWING THE FURTHER EXCHANGE CURRENTLY CONTEMPLATED IN TIME TO PERMIT SUCH A FURTHER DATA EXCHANGE BEFORE THE END OF THE CURRENT NEGOTIATING ROUND. UNDER THIS EASTERN PROPOSAL, WESTERN REPS AT AN INFORMAL SESSION WOULD INDICATE THEIR ACQUIESCENCE IN AN ORAL EASTERN STATEMENT WHICH STATED QUOTE WITH REGARD TO THE FURTHER EXCHANGE OF DATA, PARTICIPANTS HAVE AGREED TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS REFLECTING SUGGESTIONS MADE
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IN THE EASTERN PROPOSAL OF OCTOBER 25, 1977 AS WELL AS FIGURES PROPOSED IN THE SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION UNQUOTE. THIS PHRASE WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY A DESCRIPTION OF THE DATA TO BE EXCHANGED AND BY THE PHRASE THAT QUOTE IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS EXCHANGE IS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE OVERALL POSITIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS AND IS WITHOUT PRECONDITION FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS UNQUOTE.

BEGIN TEXT:

1. WITH REGARD TO THE FURTHER EXCHANGE OF DATA, PARTICIPANTS HAVE AGREED TO TAKE IN THE PRESENT ROUND THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS REFLECTING SUGGESTIONS MADE IN THE EASTERN PROPOSAL OF OCTOBER 25, 1977, AS WELL AS FIGURES PROPOSED IN THE SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION:
A. OVERALL FIGURES FOR THE GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL IN MAJOR FORMATIONS OF THE WESTERN AND THE EASTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS AND A SECOND OVERALL FIGURE FOR OTHER PERSONNEL OF THESE

DIRECT PARTICIPANTS WILL BE EXCHANGED.

B. THE WEST WILL PRESENT A FIGURE FOR ITS GROUND
PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO MULTILATERAL HEADQUARTERS.

C. DATA ON THE GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL IN MAJOR FORMATIONS
OF EACH DIRECT PARTICIPANT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CANADA AND
LUXEMBOURG, WILL BE EXCHANGED.

D. FIGURES FOR THE REMAINING GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL OF EACH
DIRECT PARTICIPANT WILL BE EXCHANGED.

E. THE SIDES WILL EXCHANGE DATA ON THE AIR FORCE
MANPOWER FOR EACH DIRECT PARTICIPANT STATE, PRESENTING THOSE
DATA IN A FORM WHICH EACH OF THE SIDES DEEMS MOST EXPEDIENT FOR
ITSELF.

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SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /087 W
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R 051807Z DEC 77
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2541
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS
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AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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2. WITH RESPECT TO THE EASTERN PROPOSAL TO EXCHANGE
DATA ON THE MANNING LEVEL OF ARMED FORCES OF DIRECT PARTICIPANTS
IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS, WHOSE IMPORTANCE HAS BEEN STRESSED
BY THE EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES, WESTERN REPRESENTATIVES STATED
THAT THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE CAREFULLY STUDIED AND THAT A REPLY

TO IT WILL BE MADE SUBSEQUENTLY.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE WESTERN PROPOSAL TO DIVIDE FOR EACH PARTICIPANT THE DATA ON ITS AIR FORCE MANPOWER, WHOSE IMPORTANCE HAS BEEN STRESSED BY WESTERN REPRESENTATIVES, EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES STATED THAT THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE CAREFULLY STUDIED AND THAT A REPLY TO IT WILL BE MADE SUBSEQUENTLY.

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4. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS EXCHANGE IS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE OVERALL POSITIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS AND IS WITHOUT PRECONDITION FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS. END TEXT

IT WAS ALSO UNDERSTOOD BY BOTH EAST AND WEST THAT GROUND FORCE DATA WOULD BE EXCHANGED IN ADVANCE OF AIR FORCE DATA, BUT THAT BOTH WOULD BE EXCHANGED IN THE COURSE OF THE CURRENT ROUND.

7. ON DECEMBER 3, THE AD HOC GROUP FORWARDED TO THE NAC AN ANALYSIS OF THE DECEMBER 1 EASTERN DATA MOVE ALONG WITH A REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE ON HOW TO RESPOND TO IT. IN SO DOING, THE GROUP NOTED THAT THE EAST WAS SEEKING TO PROTECT ITSELF AGAINST THE IMPLICATION, RAISED BY THE NOVEMBER 9 WESTERN REPLY TO THE OCTOBER 25 EASTERN DATA DISAGGREGATION PROPOSAL, THAT THE EAST WAS ENTERING ON THE PRO- JECTED EXCHANGE EVEN THOUGH IT WAS ON NOTICE THAT THE WEST MIGHT SUBSEQUENTLY RENEW ITS DEMANDS FOR A STILL FURTHER DISAGGREGATION OF DATA BY INDIVIDUAL MAJOR FORMATIONS AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY THE WEST ON JULY 15. THE GROUP FURTHER NOTED THAT THE PRO- POSED EASTERN ORAL STATEMENT WAS LIKELY TO BE INTERPRETED LATER IN DIFFERENT WAYS BY EAST AND WEST, BUT CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE A MORE SATISFACTORY OUTCOME TO THE CURRENT PROCEDURAL DISPUTE. THE GROUP FURTHER CONCLUDED (1) THAT IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO EXCHANGE DATA NOW IN ORDER TO PLACE WESTERN NEGOTIATORS IN A POSITION TO PRESS THEIR INQUIRY INTO EASTERN DATA WHEN THE NEGOTIATIONS RESUMED IN JANUARY AND (2) THAT SUCH AN EXCHANGE WOULD CLEAR THE WAY FOR A POSSIBLE DECISION BY THE COUNCIL TO PRESENT THE NEW WESTERN

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INITIATIVE IN THE CURRENT ROUND. THE GROUP ASKED FOR NAC GUIDANCE BY DECEMBER 7 IN THE EVENT THE COUNCIL

WISHED TO GO FORWARD PRIOR TO THE END OF THE CURRENT
ROUND WITH A FURTHER EXCHANGE OF DATA.

8. UK REP BOLLAND DELIVERED THE ONLY STATEMENT AT THE
DECEMBER 1 PLENARY MEETING. HE STRESSED THE NEED TO
FOCUS ON THE NEW SECURITY SITUATION WHICH WOULD RESULT
FROM IMPLEMENTATION OF AN AGREEMENT TO REDUCE AND LIMIT
FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE. HE CONTRASTED THE WAYS IN
WHICH THE WESTERN REDUCTION APPROACH TOOK THIS RE-
QUIREMENT EQUITABLY INTO ACCOUNT WITH THE EASTERN PRE-
OCCUPATION WITH THE METHOD OF REDUCTIONS ALONE WHICH,
IN TURN, WAS MANIFESTED IN AN EASTERN APPROACH
WHOSE ADOPTION WOULD LEAD TO AN OUTCOME DETRIMENTAL
TO WESTERN SECURITY.

9. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM A WESTERN CORRES-
PONDENT AT THE REGULAR POST-PLENARY PRESS BRIEFING,
THE EASTERN SPOKESMAN CLAIMED THAT THERE WAS BASICALLY
ONLY ONE ELEMENT OF THE WEST'S JULY DATA DISAGGREGATION
PROPOSAL WHICH THE EAST HAD NOT ACCEPTED. HE WENT
ON TO DESCRIBE THAT ELEMENT AS ONE WHICH IF ACCEPTED WOULD
IMPROPERLY TURN THE DATA DISCUSSION TO QUESTIONS CON-
CERNING THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF INDIVIDUAL
ARMED FORCES. RESOR

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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